

Montana Invasive Species Bulletin

Brought to you by the Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council

www.dnrc.mt.gov/misc

The Invasive Species Bulletin provides you with all the latest news on invasive species in Montana and the region. Please let us know if you have any suggestions, contributions, questions, corrections, or comments.

Email: shester@mt.gov

Montana News

Invasive Species Bulletin in 2018

The Montana Invasive Species Bulletin will be undergoing a makeover and relaunched in early 2018. The bulletin will be redesigned and upgraded in an effort to provide you with better coverage of invasive species issues, events and news. Please send your suggestions to Kate Wilson at kate.wilson@mt.gov.

Stakeholders Share Invasive Mussel Strategies at 'Unprecedented' Upper Columbia Basin Meeting

Agencies responding to the discovery of invasive mussels in two Montana reservoirs east of the continental divide last year are working to better align their prevention programs. Managers from the state, tribes, Canadian provinces and lake associations met Monday and Tuesday to explain how they run their aquatic invasive species programs.

The two-day Aquatic Invasive Species Watercraft Inspection & Monitoring Workshop was co-sponsored by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and the Upper Columbia Conservation Commission, or UC3 for short....[read more](#)

AIS podcasts: Subsurface: Resisting Montana's Underwater Invaders (Montana Public Radio)

This is "SubSurface: Resisting Montana's Underwater Invaders." I'm Nicky Ouellet, and in our first episode I'm taking us to the Midwest, to lakes where people have been fighting invasive zebra and quagga mussels for decades, to hear, see and smell what could become Montana's mussel-encrusted future if a

full-blown infestation happens here. These stories are reporting from the future...[listen and read more](#)

Regional News

Regional AIS News

Visit the Aquatic Invasive Species Network at westernais.org for the latest AIS news in and around the region. (Thanks, Stephen)

Eradication of Invasive Mussels Challenge

The Bureau of Reclamation is seeking innovative solutions to eradicate invasive zebra and quagga mussels from large reservoirs, lakes, and rivers in a cost effective and environmentally sound manner. Invasive mussel infestations pose significant logistical and economic challenges for local communities, recreationists and water managers. Currently, no practical methods exist for large-scale control of invasive dreissenid mussel populations once they become widely established in a lake or reservoir (referred to as “open-water”). Solutions can be novel treatments or approaches that build upon existing treatments. This challenge launches Stage 1 of a planned three-stage Grand Challenge that includes laboratory-scale and field-scale demonstrations...[read more](#)

Attacking Invasive Species Requires Serious Measures--A Judicial Opinion with Beatles Annotations (Law & The Environment)

Everyone knows what a problem invasive species can be. Difficult problems require difficult solutions. In a recent case decided by the 1st Circuit Court of Appeals, the scope of the government’s authority to address one invasive species – the Asian Longhorned Beetle – was made clear. On the merits, the case was relatively simple. In order to combat the ALB, the USDA removed numerous trees from plaintiff’s property without permission. The Court concluded that the discretionary function exception to liability under the Federal Tort Claims Act barred plaintiff’s claims, holding that the USDA had no non-discretionary duty to seek a landowner’s consent prior to removing the trees...[read more](#)

Five Surprising Ways Your Christmas Tree Can Give Back Long After the Holidays (Cool Green Science)

Every holiday season, my family puts up a real Christmas tree in our living room to celebrate Christmas. We're in good company – each year more than 25 million American households have a real Christmas tree. Ours is always a spruce, but families have different tastes, and there is a wide selection to choose from. To me, there's nothing better than walking in the door after a long day and smelling a real tree. The smell is a nostalgic mix of the holidays and the outdoors. There's no substitute. And, getting a real Christmas tree is one of the best things people can do for the environment during the holiday season....[read more](#)

Events and Other

December Weed Post (MSU Extension and the Montana Noxious Weed Education Campaign)

The end of 2017 wraps up with a post about the Montana Realtor Online Noxious Weed Course that Shantell Frame-Martin and I developed nearly two years ago. Shantell, who coordinates the Montana Noxious Weed Education Campaign, provides a summary and update on the course in the [December Weed Post](#).

Montana Weed Control Association Meeting

January 10-12

Great Falls Best Western

[Click for more information and to register](#)

Environmental Quality Council Meeting

The Environmental Quality Council (EQC) is scheduled to review Montana's aquatic invasive species program funding at 9 a.m. on January 18 in Room 172 of the Capitol, with an eye toward making recommendations regarding future funding sources to the 2019 Legislature. A [draft agenda](#) is now available.

Stakeholders are invited to provide comment during the public comment portion of the agenda item. Written comments may also be submitted. For more information or to submit comments, contact Hope Stockwell at: HStockwell@mt.gov

Flowering Rush Summit

February 27-28, 2018

Northern Quest Resort, Spokane Washington

The Columbia Basin Cooperative Weed Management Area invites you to join us at the Flowering Rush Summit on February 27 and 28, 2018 in Spokane WA. The Summit will be a one and a half day event that will address flowering rush in the Columbia River Basin. The goal of the Summit is to share current information on distribution, ecology and management of flowering rush. The agenda team is busy at work putting the final touches together for the upcoming summit. Take a look at the attached agenda-at-a glance for more information.

[Click for more information and to register](#)

Montana Invasive Species Council (MISC) Meeting

February 20, 10-4

Montana DNRC Headquarters, Helena

Upper Columbia Conservation Commission (UC3) Meeting

January 24, 8:30-4:30

Location: TBD

For more information about MISC and to access archives of this e-newsletter go to: <http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cardd/MISC>